

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E. O. 16552 N/ A

TAGS: OGEN, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJBCT: RECREATIONAL BOATING

REF: MOSCOW 4059 AND PREVIOUS

1. ON APRIL 27 DEPTOFF GAVE SOVIET CONSUL GALISHNIKOV COPY OF MFA DIPLOMATIC AGENT POPOV' S APRIL 10 NOTE ON BOATING IN LENINGRAD, SAYING DEPARTMENT WISHED SOVIET EMBASSY TO HAVE COPY OF OFFICIAL BOATING POLICY AS SPELLED OUT FOR OUR ADVANCE PARTY IN LENINGRAD SO THAT THERE WOULD BE NO MISUNDERSTANDING WHEN WE MAINTAIN RECIPROCAL LIMITATIONS ON RECREATIONAL BOATING FOR SOVIET DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PERSONNEL IN THE US. DEPTOFF POINTED OUT THAT A 12- HORSEPOWER LIMITATION ON SIZE OF MOTORS COULD FORCE SOVIET EMBASSY' S PIONEER POINT FLOTILLA INTO DRYDOCK, AS THREE LARGEST SOVIET BOATS HAVE INBOARD MOTORS OF MUCH HIGHER HORSEPOWER. THE LIMITATION TO DAYLIGHT HOURS AND THE RATHER SEVERELY LIMITED AREA FOR BOATING, A FAIR PORTION OF WHICH CONSISTED OF ROCKY SHOALS ALONG THE SHORELINE ALSO WERE UNFORTUNATE. WE HOPE THAT THESE RESTRICTIONS CAN BE LIFTED SOMEWHAT.

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IN THE MEANTIME, WE ARE PLEASED THAT WE AT LEAST FINALLY
GOT A RESPONSE WHICH PROVIDES FOR SOME LIMITED USE OF
RECREATIONAL BOATS IN LENINGRAD.

2. DEPTOFF ENCOURAGED GALISHNIKOV TO SEEK A LESS RESTRICTIVE AND MORE FORTHCOMING RESPONSE FOR THE MOSCOW AREA AND THAT WE WOULD WAIT AN APPROPRIATE PERIOD FOR SUCH A RESPONSE BEFORE DELINEATING THE BOATING AREA FOR THE SUMMER AT PIONEER POINT. IN CLOSING DEPTOFF EMPHASIZED THAT DEPARTMENT'S POLICY ON RECREATIONAL BOATING WOULD BE ONE OF STRICT RECIPROCITY.

3. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO INFORM ADVANCE PARTY LENINGRAD THAT SOVIET LIMITATION ON SIZE OF MOTORS WOULD SEEM TO RULE OUT FOR THE MOMENT BOATS OF SIZE MENTIONED IN SCHORER-SCANLAN LETTER OF APRIL 9. ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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